

23 SEP62

L.n.

218

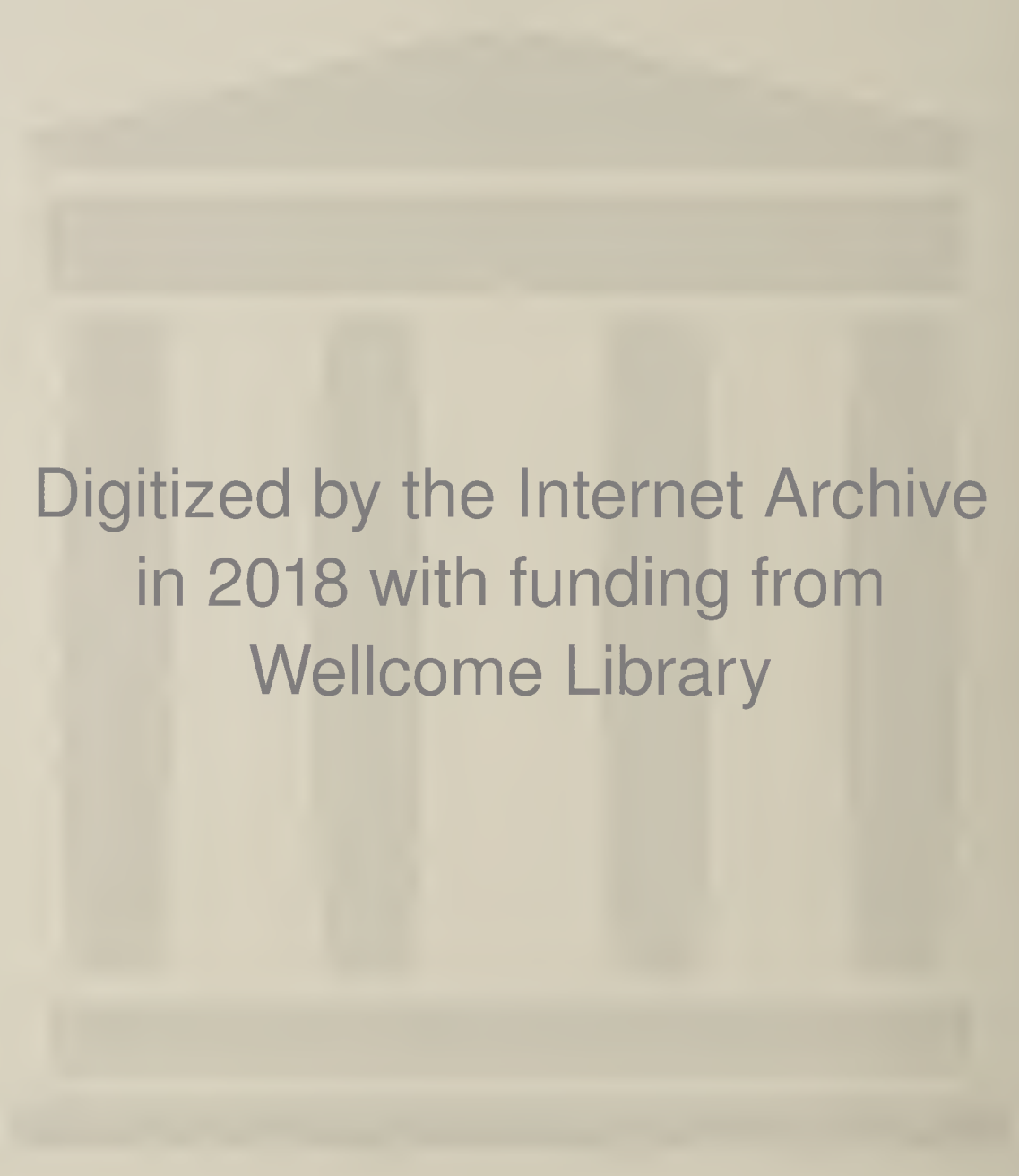
Trowbridge Urban District Council



# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
AND  
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR  
FOR THE YEAR

1961



Digitized by the Internet Archive  
in 2018 with funding from  
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b30195263>

TROWBRIDGE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

---

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH AND CHIEF  
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR  
FOR THE YEAR 1961.

---

MR. CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS,

I beg to present the Annual Report for 1961.

Faithfully yours,

JOHN L. DAVIES.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Area	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,250 acres
Population	...	...	...	...	...	...	15,750
Rateable Value (at 1st April, 1961)	...	...	...	...	...	...	£243,076
Sum represented by Penny Rate (year 1961-62)	...	...	...	...	...	...	£991.13.6
Total number of houses in Urban District (31.12.61)	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,256

VITAL STATISTICS

	M.	F.	Total	1960
<u>Live Births</u> - Legitimate ...	117	128	245	246
-Illegitimate ...	2	5	7	9
	-----	-----	-----	-----
TOTAL	119	133	252	255
	-----	-----	-----	-----
<u>Live Birth Rate</u> per 1,000 population		16.0		17.3
<u>Illegitimate Live Births</u>	2.78% of total live births			3.53%
<u>Corrected Birth Rate</u> per 1,000 population		16.0		17.8
(comparability factor 1.0)				
<u>Still Births</u> - Legitimate ...	2	3	5	2
-Illegitimate ...	1	-	1	0
	-----	-----	-----	-----
TOTAL	3	3	6	2
	-----	-----	-----	-----

	M.	F.	Total	1960
<u>Still Birth Rate</u> per 1,000 live and still births		23.26		7.78
<u>Total Live and Still Births</u>	122	136	258	257
<u>Total Deaths from All Causes</u>	92	106	198	182
<u>Death Rate</u> per 1,000 population: <u>All Causes</u> ...		12.57		12.4
<u>Corrected Death Rate</u> per 1,000 population (Comparability factor 1.0)		12.57		11.5
<u>Infants Deaths</u> (under 1 year) - Legitimate	2	1	3	4
- Illegitimate	-	-	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL	2	1	3	4
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<u>Infant Mortality Rate</u> per 1,000 live Births:				
Total		11.90		15.69
Legitimate		12.24		16.27
Illegitimate		Nil		Nil
<u>Neo-Natal Deaths</u> (under 4 weeks) - Legitimate	1	0	1	4
- Illegitimate	0	0	0	0
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL	1	0	1	4
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<u>Neo-Natal Mortality Rate</u> per 1,000 live births ...		3.97		15.69
Deaths of Infants under one week:				
Legitimate	1	0	1	4
Illegitimate	0	0	0	0
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL	1	0	1	4
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<u>Death Rate of Infants under one week</u> per 1,000 Live Births		3.97		15.69
<u>Perinatal Mortality Rate</u> (still births and deaths under one week per 1,000 live and still births)		27.13		22.35
<u>Maternal Deaths</u> (including abortion)		Nil		Nil
<u>Maternal Mortality Rate</u> per 1,000 live and still births		Nil		Nil

AREA COMPARABILITY FACTORS. These factors are provided by the Registrar-General in respect of birth and death rates in order to make approximate allowance for the way in which local populations differ in age and sex distribution for England and Wales as a whole.

The local crude rates have to be multiplied by the area factor before they are comparable with the crude rate for England and Wales, or with the corresponding adjusted rate for any other area.

Comparability Factors for Trowbridge in 1961:-

Births	...	... 1.00
Deaths	...	... 1.00

ANALYSIS OF DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>1960</u> <u>Total</u>
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	-	-	-	-
Other forms of Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-
Syphilitic Diseases	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infections	-	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-	-
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	-	-	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	4	1	5	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	2	1	3	7
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	1	2	3	5
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	-	1	1	2
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	3	6	9	14
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	2	1	3	-
Diabetes	2	3	5	2
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	8	15	23	19
Coronary Disease, Angina	23	12	35	26
Hypertension with Heart Disease	1	3	4	4
Other Heart Disease	12	23	35	33
Other Circulatory Disease	7	6	13	13
Influenza	-	-	-	1
Pneumonia	9	9	18	11
Bronchitis	8	5	13	9
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	4	3	7	2
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	1	-	1	3
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	-	2	2	3
Nephritis and Nephrosis	2	-	2	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	-	-	-	1
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	-	-	-	-
Congenital Malformations	-	-	-	1
Other Defined and Ill Defined Diseases	2	7	9	15
Motor Vehicle Accidents	-	1	1	3
All Other Accidents	1	2	3	1
Suicide	-	3	3	1
Homicide and Operations of War	-	-	-	1
TOTALS	92	106	198	182



## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

### 1. STAFF.

1. Part-time Medical Officer: Dr.J.L.Davies, M.B., B.S., D.P.H., who acts for Trowbridge U.D., Bradford on Avon U.D., and is also an Assistant County Medical Officer. (Commenced 14.8.61) Dr.Murray retired 9.7.61.
2. Chief Public Health Inspector: Donald S.Smith, F.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H. (Also acts as Authorised Officer under (1) Petroleum (Regulation) Acts, 1928 and 1936, (2) Pet Animals Act, 1951, (3) Heating Appliances (Fireguards) Regulations, 1953, and (4) Diseases of Animals (Waste Foods) Order, 1957.

Deputy Public Health Inspector: H.Phillips, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H.

Additional Public Health Inspector: A.G.Garnett, M.A.P.H.I., (Commenced 1.5.61)

3. Mrs.N.M.Hillyer, a clerk-typist whose time is divided between the Trowbridge Public Health Department and the other authority for which the Medical Officer acts.
4. Rodent Operator: T.Richards.

II. (a) Laboratory Facilities. (1) Public Health Laboratory, Salisbury, (2) Public Health Laboratory, Bath (3) Waterfall and O'Brien, Bristol.

(b) Ambulance Facilities. The County Council's Ambulance Station for this area is at Woolley Grange, Bradford on Avon.

(c) Nursing in the Home. There are two district nurses and one midwife.

(d) Home Helps. The County Council Home Help service is well established and great assistance has been given in cases of illness and infirmity. It should be clearly understood that Home Helps are not intended, and should not be expected, to undertake any nursing - their duties are household ones only.

(e) Treatment Centres and Clinics. The County Council Clinic, The Halve, is used for all clinics. The Child Welfare Clinic is held every Tuesday and Thursday at 2p.m.

Immunisation. A session is held on the fourth Thursday of every month.

Specialist Clinics are held on other occasions.

(f) Hospital Accommodation.

1. Trowbridge and District Hospital. This is a general hospital.
2. Hospitals for Infectious Diseases. Owing to the steadily decreasing numbers of infectious cases requiring admission to Isolation beds, the hospital once known as the Trowbridge

and District Isolation Hospital is now, under its modern name of St. John's Hospital, Trowbridge, used almost entirely as a Hospital for older patients - both men and women. There is an understanding, however, that under certain conditions, cases requiring isolation will still be admitted.

Claverton Hospital, Bath, is the main hospital for infectious diseases for a wide area, and all serious ones, Poliomyelitis for example, are admitted directly there.

#### NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS 1948 AND 1951.

No action was taken under this Act in 1961.

The County Council's Health Visiting Staff now have as a larger part of their work the supervision of older persons and the providing of Home Helps for those needing such aid. This illustrates very clearly the altered needs of the ageing population.

#### SANITARY CONDITIONS OF AREA.

##### WATER SUPPLY.

Samples of water are taken regularly by this Department and sent to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination. All samples taken during 1961 were satisfactory. The following report on a sample taken the 20th September, 1961 is appended:-

Plate Count. Yeastrel agar 24 hours 37° C aerobically  
- NIL per ml.  
Probable number of coliform bacilli, MacConkey 2 days,  
37°C - NIL per 100 ml.  
Probable number of Bact. coli (type 1) - NIL per 100 ml.

##### REPORT ON CHEMICAL ANALYSIS.

The following report gives details of the chemical composition of the water. The report dated the 27th March, 1961, was on a sample of water taken from No.4 Borehole, Upton Scudamore, by the West Wilts Water Board:-

Appearance: Clear, colourless.

Reaction: pH 7.2

	<u>Parts per Million.</u>
Free Carbon Dioxide CO <sub>2</sub>	44
Ammonia (as N)	
Free	Less than .01
Albuminoid	.016
Chlorine (as Chlorides)	11.5
Equivalent to Sodium Chloride	19
Oxygen absorbed (4 hrs @ 80°F)	0.24
Nitrogen in Nitrite	Absent
Nitrogen in Nitrate	2.1
Total Solids	378

	<u>Parts per Million</u>
Loss on ignition	18
Appearance on ignition	No charring
Hardness: Temporary	272
Permanent	<u>40</u>
Total	312

#### Mineral Analysis.

Calcium	Ca	118
Magnesium	Mg	4
Sodium	Na	6.7
Potassium	K	2.2
Carbonate	CO <sub>3</sub>	163
Sulphate	SO <sub>4</sub>	30
Chloride	Cl	11.5
Nitrate	NO <sub>3</sub>	9
Fluoride	(F)	0.14
Iron	(Fe)	0.14
Lead and Copper		Less than 0.1

#### Number of Dwelling-houses Supplied.

All the houses in the urban district take their water supply from the West Wilts Water Board; approximately 17 are supplied by standpipes, the remainder direct.

(Information under the next three headings supplied by the Surveyor, Mr.G.S.Day).

#### PUBLIC CLEANSING.

No alterations in the collection and disposal of house refuse have been made during 1961. The existing collecting vehicles have been adequate and disposal by controlled tipping has continued at the Wyke Tip.

Consideration was given to the possibility of collecting from the rear of houses but, in view of the additional cost likely to be involved thereby, it was decided to continue the existing method of collection.

#### SEWAGE DISPOSAL WORKS.

The Council's consulting Engineers were able to continue their investigations into the whole matter of trade effluent reception and sewage disposal. These investigations were broadened by the advent of negotiations with two adjacent local authorities over the reception of sewage from parts of their districts for treatment at the Council's works. Agreement in principle has been reached with one authority and negotiations have continued with the other, in conjunction also with the Bristol Avon River Board. Until these matters have been concluded, the date requisite for a full appraisal of the sewage treatment question will not be to hand but in the meantime much preliminary work has been possible.

#### SEWERAGE.

A scheme for the construction of a 21" diameter Northern



Interceptor Sewer was approved in principle subject to agreement being reached with the neighbouring rural authority for acceptance and treatment of sewage. The new sewer would serve some un-sewered areas in the urban district and act as a relief to the present Northern sewer, as well as being available for a connection from the rural district.

A number of sewer extensions on private building estates were made during the year.

A further programme of sewer cleansing was carried out, including the Northern sewer between Wyke Farm and Ladydown, a section of the town main sewer between Cradle Bridge and The Park, and parts of one or two smaller sewers.

#### PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS.

Six samples were taken from the open-air bathing pool during the year. One sample was reported as "moderate degree of pollution with non-faecal type coliform organisms". The other five samples were reported as "no evidence of pollution".

The two samples taken from the Nelson Haden School Pool were reported as "no evidence of pollution".

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Age Group	Scarlet Fever M F	Measles M F	Acute Poliomyelitis Paralytic Non-Paralytic M F M F	Whooping Cough M F	Food Poisoning M F
Under 1	-	6	-	-	-
1-2	-	54	-	-	-
3-4	-	64	-	-	-
5-9	1	151	-	-	-
10-14	-	15	-	-	1
15-24	-	1	-	-	-
25 and over	-	1	-	-	-
Age Unknown	-	1	-	-	-
TOTALS	1 1	293 313	- - - -	- -	- 1
Age Group	Acute Pneumonia M F	Dysentery M F	Erysipelas M F	Tuberculosis Respiratory Other M F M F	Puerperal Pyrexia
Under 5	-	-	-	-	-
5-14	-	-	-	1	-
15-24	-	-	-	-	-
25-44	1	-	-	-	-
45-64	-	-	-	2	-
65 & over	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	- 1	- -	- -	5 1 2 1	-

## HOUSING

	Houses		Flats (Conversions)		Flats (Two- Storey)		Flats (Three- Storey)		Pre-fabricated bungalows		Old People's Bungalows		Group Dwelling		Shops and Flats		Total
Bedrooms:	2	3	4	2	3	1	2	2	2	2	1	2	B/S 1/B 2/P	2	2		
Dwellings Occupied at 1.1.61	32	1051	75	1	1	2	22	99	57	42	84	-	-	1	6		1,472
Completed and Occupied during 1961 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30	-	-	-	5	13	13	-		49
Dwellings Occupied at 31.12.61	32	1051	75	1	1	2	22	129	57	42	84	5	13	1	6		1,521

(a) New properties which became available for letting during 1961 - 49

(b) Properties which became available for letting during 1961 - 50

99

ANALYSIS OF LETTINGS (Numbers of persons shown in brackets).

(a) New Properties:

First Tenancy:	2-bedroom type 3-storey flats	30	{ 62 }
	Group Dwelling-Bed/sitting rooms flats	5	{ 5 }
	-1-Bedroom flats	13	{ 17 }
"	" -2-bedroom flats	1	{ 2 }
		49	( 86 )

(b) Re-Lets:

First Tenancy:	2-bedroom type houses (post-war)	1	{ 2 }
	3-bedroom type houses (pre-war)	5	{ 17 }
	3-bedroom type houses (post-war)	21	{ 85 }
	4-bedroom type houses (pre-war)	2	{ 13 }
	1-bedroom type old persons bungalows (pre-war)	1	{ 1 }
	1-bedroom type old persons bungalows (post-war)	1	{ 1 }
	2-bedroom type old persons bungalows (post war)	3	{ 7 }
	2-bedroom type pre-fabricated bungalows	1	{ 1 }
	2-bedroom type 2-storey flats (post-war)	4	{ 6 }
	2-bedroom type 3-storey flats (post-war)	5	{ 13 }

Transfers from:	Pre-war 4-bedroom type house to post-war 2-bedroom type flats	1	{ 2 }
	Post-war 2-bedroom type flats to post-war 3-bedroom houses	1	{ 3 }
	Post-war 2-bedroom type flats to post-war 2-bedroom flats	1	{ 1 }
	Post-war 3-bedroom type houses to post-war 3-bedroom houses	1	{ 4 }
	Post-war 4-bedroom type houses to post-war 2-bedroom houses	1	{ 2 }
	Post-war 3-bedroom type houses to post-war 4-bedroom houses	1	{ 5 }
		50	( 163 )

99 (259)

Families re-housed from Confemnet, Unfit houses, etc 3 (12)

Exchanges of Tenancies 8

A. BYERS

HOUSING MANAGER.



REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

To the Chairman and Members of the Trowbridge Urban District Council.

MISS MOSER AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting my Report for the year 1961.

The year saw the retirement of Dr. Jean Murray from her post as Medical Officer of Health after a period of service which began in 1928 and during which she experienced vast changes in the field of Public Health. I had the privilege and pleasure of working with her for thirteen years. Of her many qualities, I would place none higher than her loyalty to the Council, her colleagues and to the townspeople.

The Department continued to be actively engaged in the environmental field and with the addition to the staff of Mr. A. G. Garnett, Additional Public Health Inspector, who commenced duty on 1st May, 1961, it became possible to deal with some of the back-log of work which had been accumulating for so long.

The report which follows is but an outline of the work of your Public Health Inspectors during the year. Some of this arose as a result of complaints made to the Department - 279 were received during the year - other work was the result of routine duties which the various statutes require the Council to perform.

Once again I record my thanks to the Council, the Medical Officer and the staff of the Public Health Department for their co-operation and support.

Yours obediently,

DONALD S. SMITH,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES.

1. SLAUGHTERING.

The steady increase in the number of animals slaughtered for human consumption over the past several years was maintained during 1961. 82,209 animals were killed in slaughterhouses - a remarkable total for a town the size of Trowbridge.

Mention might be made here that in addition to these animals, large numbers of poultry were killed at a poultry packing station in the District.

The Slaughterhouses Report mentioned in my report for 1960 was approved during the year by the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food but the date by which the whole of the Construction Regulations for slaughterhouses should be brought into operation

was deferred from 1st August, 1962 until 1st October, 1962.

At the end of the year, discussions were taking place with regard to the provision of a new slaughterhouse at one of the bacon factories. It was clearly impossible that the slaughterhouse would be completed by 1st October, 1962 and that some deferment of the "appointed day" would be necessary.

## 2. SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1958.

Twenty slaughtermen were licensed during the year, of whom twelve were confined to the slaughter of pigs by reason of their employment at the two bacon factories.

## 3. INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

This branch of the Department's duties continued to be of major importance. The tables following set out the number of each class of animal killed, the number and percentage of those animals affected with tuberculosis and other diseases, and the weights of meat and other foods found to be unfit for human consumption. It will be noted that no tuberculosis was found in adult cattle, but one case of congenital tuberculosis was observed in a calf. Unfortunately, efforts to trace the source of this calf were unsuccessful. Liver fluke again caused substantial losses in bovine livers, the majority of the 18.51% of cattle shown as diseased being due to this cause. The figures for pigs show not only an overall increase of tuberculosis and other diseases but reveal a marked increase (from 638 to 1219) in the number of carcasses where a part-condemnation due to disease other than tuberculosis was necessary. The reason for this is not clear but it will be of interest to see whether this trend continues in the future.

Further thought was given to the question of instituting 100% meat inspection at the bacon factories by qualified officers of the Council. This will require additional qualified staff in the Department and discussions took place with one of the food factories over the question of financial contributions by the trade towards the cost of such meat inspection. No action had been taken by the end of the year but it was becoming apparent that 100% inspection by local authority officers would be required within the next year or two.

It should be appreciated that it is only at the bacon factories where initial inspection is done by the firms' own employees, with subsequent detailed examination of all diseased or abnormal carcasses by the Council's Public Health Inspectors. At the remaining two slaughterhouses, all carcasses were examined by the Council's Inspectors. The slaughter of calves continued to take place during the evening for despatch to London the same night and this again entailed regular evening work for the Public Health Inspectors.

MEAT INSPECTION AT BACON FACTORIES AND SLAUGHTERHOUSES, 1961.

	<u>Cattle, excluding Cows</u>	<u>Cows</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Sheep and Lambs</u>	<u>Pigs</u>
Number Killed . . . . .	416	-	10, 480	482	70,831
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS AND CYSTICERCI					
Whole Carcasses condemned . . . . .	-	-	52	-	333
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned . . . . .	77	-	84	20	1,219
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci . . . . .	18.51%	-	1.3%	4.15%	2.19%
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY					
Whole Carcasses condemned . . . . .	-	-	1	-	1
Carcasses of which some part of organ was condemned . . . . .	-	-	-	-	1,549
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis . . . . .	-	-	0.01%	-	2.19%
CYSTICERCOSIS					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned . . . . .	5	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration . . . . .	5	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned . . . . .	-	-	-	-	-

The inspection of other foods entailed eighty-one visits to food premises. Investigations were also made into the following complaints received at the office:-

String in jar of Piccalilli  
String in potato chips  
String in bread roll  
Dirty Milk bottles (2)  
Pork Pies affected with mould (2)  
Bread Rolls affected with mould  
Sliced bread loaf affected with mould  
Chitterlings - decomposition  
Onions - decomposition  
Foreign matter in bread loaf  
Maggot in cake mix  
Tinned Luncheon Meat - decomposition  
Maggots in dried fruit  
Taint in fried fish  
Mouse droppings in doughnut

In the case of the doughnut containing mouse droppings, the Council authorised legal proceedings. The defendant pleaded guilty and was fined £10. In the other cases warnings were issued to the traders or manufacturers concerned.

The maggots in the dried fruit were identified by the British Museum as the larvae of *Anagasta Kuhnella* Zeller, the Mediterranean flour moth, a common pest in this country in grain stores and other stored foods. Subsequent inspection revealed that the retail shop premises and the stores at the rear were heavily infested with the moth and complete disinfection proved necessary. A considerable quantity of dried fruit and other foods were found to be infested and were destroyed.

The weights of meat and other foods condemned as unfit for human consumption during the year were as follows:-

		<u>Tons.</u>	<u>Cwts.</u>	<u>Qrs.</u>	<u>Lbs.</u>
BEEF	...	-	16	1	11
MUTTON	...	-	8	1	13
VEAL	...	1	5	-	13
PORK	....	54	18	-	8
OTHER FOODS	...	1	4	2	-
TOTAL:-		58	12	1	17

#### 4. DISPOSAL OF CONDEMNED MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

There was no change in the methods of disposal of unfit meat and other foods.



#### 5. THE DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOODS) ORDER, 1958.

The one licensed plant ceased to function during the year and no new plants were licensed.

#### 6. THE FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1960.

Work under these Regulations is of a continuing nature and regular visiting of food premises is essential if standards are to be maintained and improved. With the appointment of another Public Health Inspector it was possible to devote more time to these duties than in previous years. Details of the inspections carried out are given in the summary at the end of this Report.

#### 7. FOOD PREMISES.

The number of food premises in the district by type of business was as follows:-

Grocers, Greengrocers, Fruiterers, Confectioners	..	81
Cafes and Snack Bars	...	11
Fishmongers	...	7
Butchers	...	18
Bakers	...	6
Fish and Chip Saloons	...	4
Bacon Factories	...	2
Other Food Factories	...	11
Canteens, Kitchens, etc.	...	25
Food Warehouses	...	4
Breweries	...	1
Brewery Maltings	...	1
Beer Bottling	...	1
Wine and Spirit Bottling	...	1
Mineral Water Factories	...	2
Public Houses	...	31
Clubs	...	8
		<hr/>
		214
		<hr/>

#### 8. REGISTERED FOOD PREMISES.

Number of premises registered under Sections 16 & 18, Food and Drugs Act, 1955:-

(i)	(a)	For the Sale of Ice Cream	...	...	62
	(b)	For the Manufacture and Sale of Ice Cream			4
(ii)		For the preparation or manufacturer of Sausages or Potted, Pressed, Pickled or Preserved Food Intended for Sale	...	...	13

Three of the premises registered for ice cream manufacture and eleven premises registered for the sale of ice-cream were not used for those purposes during the year.

## 9. MILK AND DAIRIES (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1959.

- |  |        |
|--|--------|
| (i) Number of registered dairies (not being dairy farms) | 4      |
| (ii) Number of registered distributors of milk           | ... 13 |

Of the registered distributors of milk, one was concerned with school milk deliveries and three were shopkeepers retailing small quantities of bottled or cartoned milk.

## 10. MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) REGULATIONS.

Agreement was reached towards the end of the year on the terms of delegation to the Urban District Council of functions of the Wiltshire County Council under the Regulations. These functions had been transferred to the County Council during 1960 and the Urban District Council had no powers or duties as to sampling, etc. until delegation was agreed.

As a result twelve samples only were taken under the Regulations and these conformed to the prescribed standards.

## 11. ICE CREAM SAMPLING.

Fifty-nine samples of ice-cream were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory during the year and all were reported as Provisional Grade I. This was an indication of the excellent bacteriological standard of ice-cream on sale in the District.

## HOUSING AND PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.

### UNFIT HOUSES.

No new clearance areas were declared but the demolition of houses in the Islington (No.4), the Down and the Ashton Street (Castle Yard) Clearance Areas was completed.

The Council's proposals to deal with an estimated 165 unfit houses under the Housing Acts during the next four years were approved by the Minister of Housing and Local Government in March. This figure included forty-eight houses which were already subject to clearance action but which had not in fact been demolished at that time.

In the latter months of the year a preliminary survey was begun of the older houses in the town with a view to obtaining a general overall picture of their condition and to draw up a planned clearance programme for the ensuing four years. It was anticipated that some two hundred or more houses would require visiting for the purposes of the survey.

### RENT ACT.

One application only was received and granted for a certificate of disrepair.

## IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.

Details of improvement grants made during the year are set out in Section "F" of the tables below. The numbers dealt with were less even than in the previous year and one is entitled to question whether the grant schemes, in their present form, are achieving their object of preventing older houses deteriorating slowly into slum-dwellings by improving them to a reasonable standard of comfort and habitation with the help of money from public funds. It is suggested that, as far as Trowbridge is concerned, they are not. Even accepting that many householders have improved, and will continue to improve, their houses without the aid of a grant, large numbers of houses in the older parts of the town continue to be occupied without the benefit of modern amenities. The car and television set still tend to rank higher in the order of priorities than indoor sanitation, a bath and hot water on tap.

Action taken under the Acts is tabulated below:-

### A. - INSPECTIONS

Housing inspections and re-inspections made under the Public Health and Housing Acts ....	...	...	...	476
---	-----	-----	-----	-----

### B - CLEARANCE AREAS (HOUSING ACT, 1957)

Clearance Areas declared...	...	...	...	Nil
Number of unfit dwelling-houses demolished in clearance areas during the year	...	...	...	21
Number of persons displaced	...	...	...	Nil

### C. - DEMOLITION AND CLOSING ORDERS (HOUSING ACT, 1957)

	<u>Number of houses.</u>	<u>Number of persons displaced.</u>
Demolition Orders made under	)	
Section 17 ... ..	1 )	2
Houses demolished as a result of formal	)	
or informal procedure under Section 17	7 )	
Local Authority owned houses		
demolished ... ..	6	8
Closing Orders made under Section 17	4	4
Part Buildings closed under		
Section 18 ... ..	Nil	Nil
Closing Orders made under		
Sections 17 (3) and 27	Nil	Nil

### D. - REPAIRS

Number of unfit houses made fit:-	
(i) After informal action by Local Authority ...	30
(ii) After formal notice under	
(a) Public Health Acts ...	Nil
(b) Sections 9 and 16 of Housing Act, 1957	2
(iii) Under Section 24, Housing Act, 1957 ...	Nil



#### E. - CERTIFICATES OF DISREPAIR (RENT ACT, 1957)

Number of applications for certificates	...	...	1
Number of Certificates issued	...	...	1

#### F. - IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.

##### Discretionary -

Number of formal applications received	...	...	3
Number of formal applications approved	...	...	2
Number of formal applications refused	...	...	Nil
Number of schemes completed	...	...	2

##### Standard -

Number of formal applications received	...	...	15
Number of formal applications approved	...	...	16
Number of formal applications refused	...	...	Nil
Number of formal applications withdrawn	...	...	1
Number of schemes completed	...	...	15

#### Amenities Provided by Standard Grants.

Baths in separate bathrooms	...	....	...	12
Wash-hand basins	...	...	...	12
Water Closets	...	...	...	6
Hot water supplies	...	...	...	15
Food-Stores	...	...	...	10

#### MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

Twenty-eight visits were necessary in connection with the occasional use of land for moveable dwellings. No sites were licensed in the District but a licensed site exists in an adjoining Rural District immediately outside the Urban District boundary.

#### CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956.

Twelve notifications were received under Section 3 of the Act of the installation of new oil-fired furnaces. In six cases, these were in respect of conversions from some other form of heating.

Where plans which are submitted under the Building Byelaws (except in the case of a shop, residence or office) show that a new chimney is to be constructed, the adequacy of the height of the chimney is required to be considered by the Council. Six cases were considered during the year and in five the plans were passed only after an increase in the height of the chimney was agreed by the applicants. It is an important duty of the Council to ensure that, in the increasing industrial development in the town, the products of combustion from boiler furnaces are discharged at a sufficient height to avoid nuisance or detriment to health.

The main problems requiring attention under the Act were smoke from a low cinema chimney, dark smoke from a factory burning wood-waste in their furnace, dark smoke from burning-off



cable at a scrap merchant's yard and smuts from an oil-fired chimney. Appropriate informal action was taken in each case.

#### NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1960.

Although the scope of this Act is a wide one, little action was necessary. Almost inevitably, it seems, the complaints investigated included one of alleged nuisance caused by the "chimes" of ice-cream vendors, a subject on which there are widely divergent views.

#### AGRICULTURE (SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE PROVISIONS) ACT, 1956.

A survey was carried out of the farms in the District in connection with the provisions of this Act relating to sanitary accommodation for farm workers. The position was found to be generally satisfactory and no notices were served.

#### RODENT AND OTHER PEST CONTROL.

The rodent operator, Mr.T.Richards, continued to give his customary close attention to infestations by rats and mice and dealt also with wasp and cockroach problems on request. The soil sewers received two extensive poison treatments.

The Council has thirteen contracts for the regular treatment of commercial and factory premises and one hospital.

Details of work done are tabulated overleaf:-

Local					
	Authority Properties	Dwelling Houses	Business Premises	Agricultural Properties	Total
1. No. of properties inspected as a result of:					
(a) Notification ... ..	7	49	53	-	109
(b) Survey under the Act ...	9	209	15	16	249
(c) Otherwise (e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose) ... ..	-	273	231	-	504
2. Total inspections carried out ...	95	828	564	16	1503
3. No. of properties inspected which were found to be infested by:					
(a) Rats					
{ Major	3	-	2	--	5
{ Minor	7	78	21	-	106
(b) Mice					
{ Major	-	1	1	-	2
{ Minor	-	20	16	-	36
4. No. of infested properties treated by the Council ...	10	99	40	-	149
5. Total treatments carried out including re-treatments ...	17	119	67	-	203
6. No. of "block" control schemes carried out ... ..	1	2	2	-	5

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

1. INSPECTIONS for purpose of provisions as to health

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	9	6	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	91	45	7	-
(3) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out- workers' premises)	4	1	-	-
TOTAL ...	104	52	7	-

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness S.1	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding S.2	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature S.3	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation S.4	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors S.6	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences S.7					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	-	-	-
(b) unsuitable or defective	6	3	-	-	-
(c) not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	7	4	-	-	-

3. OUTWORK (Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work	No. of out-workers in August list required by S.110(1)(c)	Section 110		Section 111	
		No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served Prosecutions
Mending ) Making, etc. apparel ) Cleaning and washing	4 --	-- --	-- --	-- --	-- --
TOTAL ...	4	--	--	--	--



RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS  
ACT, 1951.

(1) Premises registered for the purposes of the Act ...	1
(2) Licences issued during 1961 to store Rag Flock ...	1

PETROLEUM (REGULATION) ACTS 1928 & 1936.

The trend in recent years has been for increasing quantities of petroleum-spirit to be kept at fewer premises. This can be accounted for by the smaller, less satisfactory installations being discontinued and increased storage facilities being provided at filling stations, etc.

Forty premises were licensed by the Council during the year for the storage of a total of 55,670 gallons of petroleum spirit. In addition the Home Secretary issued a licence for an installation at a laundry.

Improvements effected during the year included a new filling station to replace an installation within a building, a new installation to replace a badly sited tank and pump, and the completion of improvements to the Council's requirements at an existing filling station.

Annual visits are made by Fire Prevention Officers to all installations licensed by the Council and their advice and observations are appreciated.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.

One licence only was issued under the Act to keep a pet shop. The advice of the R.S.P.C.A. is sought in connection with applications for licences.

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS' INSPECTIONS.

	<u>Primary</u> <u>Inspections</u>	<u>Re-</u> <u>inspections</u>
Housing - General ...	218	235
Disrepair Certificate	2	7
Improvement Grants-Discretionary	8	43
--Standard	42	138
Overcrowding ...	3	-
Clearance Areas ...	13	5
Other Visits, Housing Acts ...	138	28
Moveable Dwellings ...	23	5
Dangerous Buildings ...	1	2
Offensive Trades ...	3	2
Keeping of Animals ...	2	-
Refuse Accommodation ...	2	2
Accumulations ...	7	6
Watercourses Etc. ...	11	6
Other Visits, Public Health Act	47	18
Carried forward ...	520	497

		<u>Primary</u> <u>Inspections</u>	<u>Re-</u> <u>Inspections</u>
Brought Forward	...	520	497
Drainage - Inspections	...	118	114
- Tests		23	6
Sanitary Accommodation	...	5	5
Sewage Disposal	...	4	6
Refuse Disposal	...	5	-
Water Supply	...	3	1
Milk & Dairies	...	12	2
Ice-Cream Premises	...	18	4
Licensed Premises	...	10	1
Food Preparing Premises	...	67	46
Other Food Premises	...	105	62
Markets, Stalls, Vans, etc.	...	49	2
Slaughterhouses	...	11	10
Meat Inspection - Slaughterhouses		548	20
- Bacon Factories		408	4
Export Food Inspection	...	3	-
General Food Inspection	...	81	-
Food Enquiries	...	15	2
Factories- with mechanical power		34	11
-without mechanical power		6	-
-Other Premises		1	-
Agriculture (Safety, Health & Welfare Provisions) Act 1956		19	1
Shops Act	...	49	8
Clean Air Act-Observations	...	54	5
-Inspections	...	61	11
-Surveys	...	1	-
-Section 10	...	4	-
Noise Abatement	...	14	-
Petroleum Acts-Inspections	...	65	48
-Tank Tests	...	15	12
-Other Visits	...	11	2
Rag Flock Acts	...	1	-
Pet Animals Act	...	1	-
Rodent Control	...	46	12
Other Pest Control	...	17	1
Premises Disinfested (excl. rodent)		8	1
Infectious Diseases	...	5	1
Premises Disinfected	...	1	1
Waste Foods Order-Inspections		1	-
Miscellaneous Visits	...	192	-
Interviews	...	216	-
Samples-Swimming Bath	...	8	-
-Water	...	4	-
-Milk-Bacteriological		12	-
-Ice-Cream	...	59	-
TOTALS	...	2910	896



